

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A charge pump circuit, comprising:

first and second diodes interposed in series between an input portion for receiving a power source input to an object to be stepped up and an output portion for outputting a stepped up voltage such that a forward direction of each diode is directed to a side of the output portion;

a capacitor interposed on a connecting path between a connecting portion of the first diode on a side of the output portion and a ground, the first diode being disposed on a side of the input portion with respect to the second diode, the capacitor having two connecting portions;

a first switch for conducting and cutting a connecting path between one of the connecting portions of the capacitor and the ground;

a second switch for conducting and cutting a connecting path between the one connecting portion of the capacitor and the input portion; and

a driver for conducting the first switch and the second switch alternately in phases opposite to each other;

wherein:

\_\_\_\_\_ a constant current charging and discharging circuit, using a first follower circuit and a second follower circuit, is ~~interposed at any position~~ arranged to be along on a first path, through which a current flows when a connecting path between the one connecting portion of the capacitor and the ground is conducted by the first switch and a current from the input portion charges the capacitor, and along ~~any position on~~ a second path, through which a

current flows when the connecting path between the one connecting portion of the capacitor and the input portion is conducted by the second switch and the capacitor is discharged; and

the first and second follower circuit comprises circuits each comprise:

\_\_\_\_\_ a first transistor and a second transistor respectively interposed at any position on the first path and the second path for controlling an amount of a flowing current flowing through the paths; and

\_\_\_\_\_ a first resistor and a second resistor connected in series to the first transistor and the second transistor, respectively, on an upstream side or a downstream side in a current flowing direction of the transistor-transistor, wherein one end of the second resistor is connected to the first diode and another end of the second resistor is connected to the second transistor.

2. (Currently Amended) The charge pump circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the respective first and second transistors interposed at any positions on the first path and the second path respectively function as the first switch and the second switch.

3. (Original) The charge pump circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the charge pump circuit is for vehicle mounting and is used for driving a gate of an FET for controlling a power source for controlling a flowing state of a power source current supplied from a power source line to a load.

4. (Original) The charge pump circuit according to Claim 2, wherein the charge pump circuit is for vehicle mounting and is used for driving a gate of an FET for controlling a power source for controlling a flowing state of a power source current supplied from a power source line to a load.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)
7. (New) The charge pump circuit according to Claim 1, further comprising:  
a third resistor;  
a fourth resistor;  
a fifth resistor; and  
a third diode, wherein the third resistor, the fourth resistor, the fifth resistor and the third diode are connected in series.
8. (New) The charge pump circuit according to Claim 1, wherein a first connecting point exists between the fourth resistor and the third diode, and the first connecting point is connected to a base of the first transistor.
9. (New) The charge pump circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the first resistor is connected on one end to the first transistor and is connected on another end to ground.